

**Oracle[®] Retail Demand Forecasting
Oracle[®] Retail Curve
Oracle[®] Retail Promote
Release Notes
Release 10.5.1.17
February 2006**

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- Product version and program/module name.
- Functional and technical description of the problem (include business impact).
- Detailed step-by-step instructions to recreate.
- Exact error message received.

Overview

Release Information	Details Regarding this Release
Solutions:	Oracle Retail Demand Forecasting (RDF), Curve, Promote Note: The package may not include all solutions depending on the licensing agreement
Version Number:	10.5.1 on RPAS 11.0.4 using Oracle Retail Configuration Tools 11.0.4
Code Cut Off Date:	January 6, 2004
Release Date:	January 16, 2004
Type of Release:	GA – Generally Available
Base:	Yes
Patch:	Yes
RPAS Client Version:	ARPOplatform 5
RPAS Server Version:	RPAS 11.0.4
Acumate Version:	Acumate 25
Supported OS:	Windows NT, Sun Solaris 5.8, AIX 5.2, HP 11.11
Additional Documentation:	Oracle Retail Demand Forecasting, Curve, Promote 10.5.1 Installation Guide
	Oracle Retail Demand Forecasting, Curve, Promote 10.5.1 User Guide
	RPAS 11.0.4 Administrator Guide
	RPAS 11.0.4 Installation Guide
	RPAS 11.0.4 User Guide
	RPAS 11.0.4 Configuration Guide
	RPAS 11.0.4 Rule Functions Reference Guide
	RPAS 11.0.4 Solution Extension Configuration Guide

RDF, Promote and Curve Versions and Corresponding RPAS Versions

RDF, Promote, Curve	RPAS and Tools
10.5.1.1	11.0.4
10.5.1.2	11.0.4.1
10.5.1.3	11.0.4.2
10.5.1.4	11.0.4.3
10.5.1.5	11.0.4.4
10.5.1.6	11.0.4.6
10.5.1.7	11.0.4.7
10.5.1.8	11.0.4.8
10.5.1.9	11.0.4.9
10.5.1.10	11.0.4.10
10.5.1.11	11.0.4.11
10.5.1.12	11.0.4.12
10.5.1.14	11.0.4.14
10.5.1.14.1 (HP-UX)	11.0.4.14.1 (HP-UX)
10.5.1.15	11.0.4.15
10.5.1.15.1	11.0.4.15
10.5.1.16	11.0.4.16
10.5.1.17	11.0.4.17

Patching History

02/06/2006

- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.17 on RPAS 11.0.4.17 released to MetaLink
- Corrected an issue in sciPatch.ksh that prevented the purging of back-up .gem files after ReshapeArrays is called (BugDB# 4992358)
- Corrected an issue in the patching process that prevented promotions that had been removed from the configuration to properly delete in the domain. The workaround for this issue (see 08/31/2005 release notes below) is no longer required.
- Corrected an issue in Preprocessing that caused invalid adjustments on out of stock days. The algorithm was changed such that when there is no data for a particular time period, the adjustment will be made based on previous time period's sales (BugDB# 4854066)
- The following are new parameters that have been added to Forecast Administration Workbook, Advanced Settings tab / Final and Source Level worksheet:
 - 'Causal Beta Scale': As part of the causal forecasting process, the average sales of non-promo periods in history are divided by the Beta Scale. If the betazero is above the 'Causal Beta Scale' value, then the causal forecasting method succeeds. If not, the causal forecasting method fails and the 'Fallback Method' is used to generate the forecast for the time series.
 - 'Causal Capping Number': The value of this parameter is a measure based on the same product and location intersection as the forecast level. This measure contains the maximum value to use for calculating the causal forecast for time series that meet the Causal Capping conditions. If 'Use Causal Capping' is set to true, the history for the time series is greater than or equal to the 'Minimum Causal Capping History', and the preliminary forecast is greater than or equal to the 'Causal Capping Number', the forecast will be recalculated to be the 'Causal Capping Number' multiplied by the 'Causal Capping Ratio'.
 - 'Causal Capping Ratio': The value of this parameter is a measure based on the same product and location intersection as the forecast level. This measure contains the ratio to be used to calculate the forecasts for time series that meet the Causal Capping conditions. If 'Use Causal Capping' is set to true, the history for the time series is greater than or equal to the 'Minimum Causal Capping History', and the preliminary forecast is greater than or equal to the 'Causal Capping Number', the forecast will be recalculated to be the 'Causal Capping Number' multiplied by the 'Causal Capping Ratio'.
 - 'Minimum Causal History': If 'Use Causal Capping' is set to true, this parameter is used to set minimum number of historical time periods required before the system will consider a time series for causal capping.
 - 'Use Causal Forecast Capping': Place a check in this parameter (set to true) if capping is to be applied to the causal forecast. Also required for causal capping are the following parameters: 'Causal Capping Number', 'Causal Capping Ratio', 'Minimum Causal Capping History'.

- ‘Causal Short Seasonal Threshold’: Used only in Causal forecasting, this parameter is the minimum number of historical time periods that are required for SeasonalES to be used to produce the Causal forecast. Otherwise, the baseline from Causal regression will be used. The algorithm currently uses 52 weeks of history as the default for this parameter.
- ‘Seasonal Index Smoothing’: This parameter is used in the calculation of seasonal index. The current default value used within forecasting is .80. Changes to this parameter will impact the value of seasonal index directly and impact the level indirectly. When seasonal smooth index is set to 1, seasonal index will be closer to the seasonal index of last year sales only. When seasonal smooth index is set to 0, seasonal index will be closer to the mean of all seasonal indexes from history.
- ‘Fallback Method’: Set this parameter **ONLY IF** the ‘Fallback Method’ is to vary from the default Fallback Methods used by the selected forecasting algorithm. If the method selected as the ‘Default Forecast Method’ or ‘Forecast Method Override’ does not succeed for a time series, this method will be used to calculate the forecast and the default Fallback Methods in the forecasting process will be skipped entirely. The default Fallback Methods are as follows:
 - If either the Causal, Bayesian, or Profile-Based are selected as the ‘Default Forecast Method’ or ‘Forecast Method Override’ and the method does not fit the data:
 - Step 1: RDF will attempt to fit SeasonalES
 - Step 2: RDF will attempt to fit TrendES
 - Step 3: RDF will attempt to fit Simple/IntermittentES
 - If the SeasonalES is selected as the ‘Default Forecast Method’ or ‘Forecast Method Override’ and neither Multiplicative Seasonal or Additive Seasonal fits the data:
 - Step 1: RDF will attempt to fit TrendES
 - Step 2: RDF will attempt to fit Simple/IntermittentES
 - If either the Multiplicative Seasonal or Additive Seasonal are selected as the ‘Default Forecast Method’ or ‘Forecast Method Override’ and the method does not fit the data:
 - Step 1: RDF will attempt to fit TrendES
 - Step 2: RDF will attempt to fit Simple/IntermittentES
 - If the TrendES is selected as the ‘Default Forecast Method’ or ‘Forecast Method Override’ and the method does not fit the data:
 - Step 1: RDF will attempt to fit Simple/IntermittentES

08/31/2005

- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.16 on RPAS 11.0.4.16 released to ROCS
- HP-UX release is now built on the ACC compiler
- Moved the temporary measure, lappsysf to its own database to prevent the appsysf database from exceeding the 2 gig limit during the batch process (**DEFECT000396410**).
- Corrected an issue that may cause 'Generate' to fail due to the Approved System Forecast array exceeding the 2 gig limit during the batch run (**DEFECT000395932**).
- An issue in the wizard for 'Forecast Scorecard' workbook was corrected. The wizard that allows the user to select the forecast birth date was not filtering correctly based on the final level (**DEFECT000395765**).
- Within the RPAS Configuration Tools, added the ability specify the database for a promotion variable using the Promotion Manager utility. If you are patching a domain with a new database for an existing promotion variable, the following additional steps in patching must be followed:
 - a. Before patching the domain, export all 'pvarXL(+promo) measures that will have a new database specified
 - b. In the RPAS Configuration Tool, open the Promotion Manager and change the necessary databases for the promotions
 - c. Auto-generate the Promote configuration by selecting the 'G' icon
 - d. Patch the domain
 - e. Load the data for the 'pvarXL(+promo) measures into the domain

05/17/2005

- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.15.1 on RPAS 11.0.4.15 released to ROCS
- Corrected an issue that effected the FMA override measures' NA values
- Implemented Bayesian capping from v9.4
- See 5/06/05 patching note below regarding the re-write of the LostSale function. Since this function has been re-written as a special expression, RPAS date/time functions may not be used in the expression. In the example provided, the preprocess parameter LSTODAY requires a measure that holds the date. Note that this measure should be data type of 'int'.

05/06/2005

- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.15 on RPAS 11.0.4.15 released to ROCS
- The Promotion Effectiveness workbook has had some significant design changes to support what-if capabilities for not only final levels, but also source levels (DEFECT000378175). The changes include:
 - a. The automatic loading of all promotions into the workbook
 - b. Allow the user to select any single causal level, not just causal levels at final
 - c. Use the System Forecast rather than Approved Forecast in workbook calculations
 - d. Use the System Peaks rather than the Approve Peak (which is only at Final)
 - e. Bring in the latest birth date for the forecast
 - f. Change the baseline calculation in the Forecast Approval workbook to use the System Promo Peak rather than the Approved Promo Peak
- Corrected an issue that caused the fmaenddt measure's NA value to be overwritten with incorrect values (DEFECT000393820)
- Corrected an issue that set the Forecast Start Date incorrectly when multiple final levels are implemented (DEFECT000393889)
- Enhancements made to Forecast Administration, Forecast Maintenance and Forecast Like-Item, Sister-Store workbooks to improve performance of the workbook build time.
- Enhancements have been made to the Forecasting Engine to improve performance of the Adjust function (DEFECT000394514).
- Corrected an issue with using the -d option with curvebatch executable. It now works properly if called from a different directory than the domain root.
- We have added a new parameter to Forecast Administration that will allow users the option for items with end dates within the horizon to have zero demand applied to time series before or after the interim forecast is calculated. The parameter is called 'Item End Date Action'. The two options are:
 - 'Apply 0 After Spreading': This is the default value and how the system currently works. Spreading ratios are calculated for time series with no consideration made to the end date of an item. It is after the source is spread to the final level when zero is applied to the System Forecast.
 - 'Apply 0 to Interim': For items that have an end date within the forecast horizon, zero is applied to the Interim Forecast before the spreading ratios are calculated. This ensures that no units are allocated to the final level for time series that have ended.
- Fixed minor issues related to DEFECT000393436 and DEFECT000393361. However both defects were resolved through changes to HP memory allocation.

- For performance reasons the LostSale function was re-written as a special expression. To take advantage of the performance gains related to this re-write, expressions that run from the backend of the domain that use the LostSale function must be changed such that the equal sign (=) is now a left pointing arrow (<-). (DEFECT000393355)

Example:

- An expression that currently is written as: LSOVER:LSOVERMEAS, LS:LS1MEAS, TSALERT:TSALERTMEAS = **preprocess**(SRC:DATASRCMEAS, METHODID:MTHIDMEAS, LSTODAY:TODAY, NPTS:NPTSMEAS, WINDOW:WINMEAS)
- Will now be written as: LSOVER:LSOVERMEAS1, LS:LS1MEAS, TSALERT:TSALERTMEAS <- **preprocess**(SRC:DATASRCMEAS, METHODID:MTHIDMEAS, LSTODAY:DATEMEAS, NPTS:NPTSMEAS, WINDOW:WINMEAS)

Note that in the first example the = is now <- in the second example. In addition, 'TODAY' in the first example is now 'DATEMEAS'.

04/05/2005

- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.14.1 on RPAS 11.0.4.14.1 released to ROCS
- For performance reasons the LostSale function was re-written as a special expression. To take advantage of the performance gains related to this re-write, ALL expressions that use the LostSale function must be changed such that the equal sign (=) is now a left pointing arrow (<-). (DEFECT000393355). Example:
- An expression that currently is written as: LSOVER:@LSOVER1, LS:@LS1, TSALERT:@TSALERT1 = **preprocess**(SRC:@POS, METHODID:@MTHID, LSTODAY:@TODAY1, NPTS:@NPTS, WINDOW:@WIN)
- Will now be written as: LSOVER:@LSOVER1, LS:@LS1, TSALERT:@TSALERT1 <- **preprocess**(SRC:@POS, METHODID:@MTHID, LSTODAY:@TODAY1, NPTS:@NPTS, WINDOW:@WIN)
- Note that in the first example that the = is now <- in the second example.
- Fixed minor issues related to DEFECT000393436 and DEFECT000393361. However both defects were resolved through changes to HP memory allocation.

02/24/2005

- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.14 on RPAS 11.0.4.14 released to ROCS (**Note: RDF and RPAS skipped the .13 patch**)
- **Outstanding Issue:** Testing of this patch uncovered an issue with saving workbook template formats for RDF and Promote workbook templates. The problem occurs in Forecast Approval when a format is saved with:
- Additional Forecast Measures from the wizard: Since subsequent builds of this workbook will look for the specific birth date for these measures. If you are reviewing a more recent batch than the period in which the format was saved, the workbook will error.

- **Source Levels:** If the same source levels are not selected to be included in the subsequent workbook builds, the workbook will error. The problem occurs in Promotion Effectiveness since all measures are added dynamically to the workbook, if the format is saved and the user rebuilds the workbook without all of the previous measures when the format was saved the workbook will fail.
This full extent of this issue is still being tested therefore this may occur in other workbook templates with saved formats. If this issue is encountered, delete the 'style' files for the template in the directory of the domain. From the root of the domain go to the 'styles' directory. Within this directory delete all files that include the abbreviated name of the workbook template with this issue. For example, 'fap' is the abbreviation for the Forecast Approval workbook and 'pref' is the abbreviation for the Promotion Effectiveness workbook. Deleting these files will remove any formatting previously applied to the workbook.
The resolution of this issue will be delivered with a future patch to RPAS.
- Corrected an issue in the RDF workbooks that prevented the refreshing of extra measures inserted in a workbook (DEFECT000376903). As well refreshing capabilities were also added to the 'History Data' measure viewed in the Forecast Approval Workbook.
- Added new error messages to the Forecast function if the function is configured with incorrect parameters.
- Changed the base intersection of the 'Approve by' (bt) and 'Approval Date' (dt) temporary measures in RDF. Specifically, the calendar dimension was removed. Having calendar may increase the risk of these measures exceeding the 2 gig limit for a database.
- Log messages are now outputted for all rules at loglevel debug during "postWorkbookBuild"
- Modified sciInstall such that the install will not continue and an error message will be logged if rpasInstall returns any return code other than 0.

12/20/2004

- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.12 on RPAS 11.0.4.12 released to ROCS
- Released RDF 10.5.1.12 on AIX, Sun, HP-UX, and currently not available on NT. The 10.5.1.12.1 patch will be provided for NT support.
- Corrected an issue in the Forecast Approval Wizard that prevented the correct measures to be presented in the workbook when 'System Generated Parameters' or 'System Generated Methods' is selected in the Addition Forecast Measures wizard (DEFECT000376029).
- Added the ability to view the System Baseline at the source level when the 'Causal' forecast method is used at the source level. Now, both the System Forecast and the Promo Peak at the source level are spread to the final level in two separate steps using the 'Spreading Profile' and the 'Causal Spread Profile'.

- Added new logic to the values stored in the 'Default Forecast Start Date' and the 'Next Run Date' measures. First, we are now clearing out the 'Default Forecast Start Date' when the batch forecast is run. In addition, we simplified the logic for how these measures are used in support of the batch forecast. The following outlines how the forecast batch uses and calculates these measures (DEFECT000374577):
 - The Forecast 'Override' (true/false) is set at command line and passed in
 - The Forecast birth date is set to now (current date and current time)
 - Set the forecast start date
 - If Default Forecast Start Date (dfxlxb) does not have a value (is set to NA), then the forecast start date = the date portion of birth date
 - If Default Forecast Start Date (dfxlxb) has a stored value (is not set to NA), then the forecast start date = the date portion of the Default Forecast Start Date
 - Set the Next Run Date in order to determine if the batch should run
 - If the Next Run Date does not have a stored value (is set to NA), then the Next Run Date = the date portion of birth date
 - If the Next Run Date has a stored value (is not set to NA), then the Next Run Date = date portion of the Next Run Date.
 - If either the forecast override is true or the date portion of next run date <= date portion of birth date then
 - Run the forecast
 - If date portion of next run date <= date portion of birth date (scheduled), then the Next Run Date (nxtrunlxb) is set to the date portion of Next Run Date + as many Forecast Cycles (fcyclelxb) needed for Next Run Date to be greater than date portion of birth date variable
 - Set the Default Forecast Start Date (dfxlxb) to NA
- Added a new measure that stores the value of the 'Last Forecast Start Date' (lfsXLXB) for each final forecast level. This measure can be used in any expression/alert that requires the value of the first date in the current forecast horizon. Since the measure is based on the DATA hierarchy/FLVL dimension, the 'flookup' function should be used.
- Example: flookup(lfsXLXB,[DATA].[FLVL].[FLVL01])
- This would return the stored value of lfsXLXB for Final Forecast Level 01. See the RPAS 11.0.4 Rule and Functions Reference Guild for more information on using flookup.
- Added two optional arguments to sciInstall.ksh (DEFECT000375332)
 - -o for the path and name of log file
 - -h to indicate the domain dbs needed to be hypersparse
- Removed the ability to select measures defined with a birth date from the 'Extra Measures' wizard, Measure Analysis, or using 'Insert Measure' functionality.
- Added validation during the forecast batch process that checks the 'Causal Higher Intersection'. If the Causal Higher Intersection includes a calendar dimension, the batch will provide an exception that indicates that an invalid intersection is defined.
- Added the clean-up of all forecast databases associated with the failure of the batch forecast.

11/01/2004

- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.11 on RPAS 11.0.4.11 released to ROCS
- Modified the Forecast Start Date measure such that the value in this measure is cleared out at the end of the forecast batch process (DEFECT000374812).
- Changed the calculation of the Next Run Date (DEFECT000374577). The new behavior is:
 - If the Forecast Start Date is larger than the system date (today), use today's date plus the # of days in the Forecast Cycle to return the value for the Next Run Date.
 - Open Issue: In our testing we discovered that the Next Run date does not update if the Forecast Start Date is \leq the system date (today). In this circumstance the Next Run Date should also be calculated as today's date plus the # of days in the Forecast Cycle. We will correct this issue with the 10.5.1.12 patch.
- Updated the agg method for the System Baseline measure such that it uses 'Total' rather than 'Ambig' (DEFECT000374294).
- Updated the agg method from 'Ambig' to 'Average' for the following measures in Promote:
 - Simulated Promo Effect
 - System Calculated Promo Effect
 - System Promo Effect Override
 - Approved Promo Effect
- Added Refresh rules for measures in the Forecast Approval and Profile Approval workbook templates. Forecast Approval refreshable measures (DEFECT000373675):
 - Adjusted Forecast
 - Approved Forecast
 - Approved System Forecast
 - History Data (Source Data)
 - Last Approved Forecast
 - Approval Date
 - Approved By
 - Approved Cumulative Interval
- Profile Approval refreshable measures (DEFECT000373674):
 - Adjusted Profile
 - Approved Profile
 - Profile Approval Date
 - Profile Approved By

- Made a change to the Forecast Approval wizard such that the list of forecast generation dates from which the user may select is filtered based on the final level (DEFECT000372869)
- Made several changes to the Forecast Approval wizard to support the use of Auto-workbook build functionality. The user may now enter the number of time periods to include in the workbook for: history data, forecast horizon and future calendar positions (DEFECT000372867).
 - Open issue: An RPAS issue has been logged in regards to the above defect. When using Auto-workbook build, the user is able to put an initial value in the # of time periods field but when wbbatch is executed an exception is returned due to there being no stored value being set for these fields. These fields are used to set history, forecast horizon and post-horizon time periods to include in the workbook (DEFECT000375367).
- Changed the 'Insertable' attribute for all RDF measure to 'TRUE' or 'FALSE'. Only measures with a 'TRUE' attribute may be inserted into a workbook template (DEFECT000372693). RPAS also made several enhancements to support this functionality (see RPAS 11.0.4.11 Release Notes).

9/24/2004

- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.10 on RPAS 11.0.4.10 released to ROCS
- Completed all necessary code changes to support hypersparse domains (DEFECT000372541)
- Modified the Forecast special expression and other functions using calendarpositionmap class to provide comparable run times as the version 10.0/10.1 aliautoes binary (DEFECT000373338 still in progress).
- Corrected an issue in the Forecast Approval "Extra Measures" wizard that prevented the user from selecting the source data measure used to forecast. This measure is already included in the workbook template, but labeled 'History Data'. However, now if you select this measure the workbook will build rather than error (DEFECT000374170).
- **Important Configuration Change:** For any RDF 10.5.1 implementation there are currently several measures required to be configured in the 'Common' solution. Of these measures, two require a change in the existing configuration:
 - Measure Name: tmpscalarbool
 - Change Database from 'data/temp' to 'data/rdftemp'
 - Measure Name: tmpscalarstr
 - Change Database from 'data/temp' to 'data/rdftemp'

9/07/2004

- RPAS and Configuration Tools v11.0.4.9 released to ROCS
- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.9 released to ROCS
- Added 'Approved Cumulative Interval' measure to the Forecast Approval Workbook Template (DEFECT000372780)
- Changed several measures labels in Curve so that these measures are not duplicates of measure labels in RDF (DEFECT000372265)
 - Approval Method is now Profile Approval Method
 - Data Source is now Profile Data Source
 - Default Approval Method is now Default Profile Approval Method
 - Approved By is now Profile Approved By
 - Approve Date is now Profile Approval Date
- Corrected an issue that prevented the Lifecycle_SKU method from producing a forecast on day-level data (DEFECT000373070)
- Corrected an issue (in conjunction with RPAS) in Autoworkbook Build that prevented the batch execution of the Forecast Approval Workbook using this functionality (DEFECT000372771)
- Updated 'generate' binary exit codes (DEFECT000372843):
 - 0 – success
 - 1 – wrong input parameters
 - 2 – execution failure

7/30/2004

- RPAS and Configuration Tools v11.0.4.8 released to ROCS
- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.8 released to ROCS
- Patch includes an update to the aggregation method for several forecast metrics viewed in the Forecast Scorecard Workbook.
- Customers with existing configurations must open the configuration in the latest version of the RPAS Configuration Tools and autogenerate each of the RDF, Promote or Curve solution extensions that are implemented. Please see the following documentation for more details:
 - RPAS 11.0.4 Solution Extension Configuration Guide: Information on 'autogenerating' a solution extension.
 - RDF 10.5.1 Installation Guide: Information on patching configuration changes into an existing domain.
- Patch includes a new prod.dat file as part of the LabsGA configuration. This modified file is a temporary solution to address Defect371292, an RPAS issue with the handling of parenthesis used in position labels.

7/6/2004

- RPAS and Configuration Tools v11.0.4.7 released to ROCS
- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.7 released to ROCS
- Patch includes support for Forecast Approval Alerts, returns the behavior of the Forecast 'Approved' Boolean measure back to the design in RDF 9.5/10, and addresses domain patching issues.

5/12/2004

- RPAS and Configuration Tools v11.0.4.6 released to ROCS and Fulfillment Center as a Service Pack
- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.6 released to ROCS and Fulfillment Center as a Service Pack

3/30/2004

- RPAS and Configuration Tools v11.0.4.4 released to ROCS
- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.5 released to ROCS
- This patch version includes all necessary components for a full install of RDF, Promote and Curve

1/17/2004 – 3/29/2004

- RPAS and Configuration Tools v11.0.4.1 through v11.0.4.3 release to ROCS
- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.2 through v10.5.1.4 released to ROCS, however these patch versions did not include the updated domain configurations required to complete a full install of RDF, Promote and Curve. Additional support is required from Oracle Retail Labs to complete the install of any of these versions.

1/16/2004

- RPAS and Configuration Tools v11.0.4 release to the Fulfillment Center
- RDF, Promote, Curve v10.5.1.1 released to the Fulfillment Center

Known Issues

Curve Issues

Issue	Issue Owner	Status / Workaround
RPAS currently does not support the patch process if levels are deleted in the Tools on an existing domain.	RPAS/Tools/ Oracle Retail Labs	Known Limitation: No workaround
RPAS Configuration Tools does not support the patch process if Solution Extension measures or rules are modified in Tools on an existing domain.	RPAS/Tools/ Oracle Retail Labs	Additional support provided in RDF 11.1.
Within Profile Approval: If the user wants to make adjustments to the final profile, it is required that the Final worksheet be aggregated to the Aggregation Intersection and lock the cells before making adjustments at the lower level.	Oracle Retail Labs	Medium Priority: Usability issue. An easy way to determine the Aggregation Intersection is to match the intersection on the Approval worksheet. For example in our LabsGA configuration, the profile intersection for The Aggregation Intersection (as shown on the Approval worksheet) is Item/Store

RDF Issues

Issue	Issue Owner	Status / Workaround
<p>After the auto generation of an RDF configuration, the following rule groups will be flagged (shown in red) as invalid, but will be installed properly in the domain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAP_load_It • FEV_load_It • FINT_load • FINT_calc_L01 (and any other levels in your configuration..L02, L03...) 	Tools	Low Priority: Does not prevent functionality
RPAS currently does not support the patch process if levels are deleted in the Tools on an existing domain.	RPAS/Tools/ Oracle Retail Labs	Known Limitation: No workaround
RPAS Configuration Tools does not support the patch process if Solution Extension measures or rules are modified in Tools on an existing domain.	RPAS/Tools/ Oracle Retail Labs	Additional support provided in RDF 11.1.
Forecast Administration: There is an issue in this release that prevents the Final Level Parameters worksheets from including only the Final Levels.	RPAS/Dynamic Template	Additional support provided in RDF 11.1.
Default Source Level: This is no longer a pick list of source levels, but is the integer associated to the source levels.	Oracle Retail Labs	Additional support provided in RDF 11.1.

Issue	Issue Owner	Status / Workaround
If the user modifies the Seasonal Profile, Spreading Profile or Data Plan in the FAD workbook, these parameters will need to change the Configuration Tools to reflect the new values. Otherwise the new values will be overwritten with the old values when patching occurs.	Tools	No workaround

10.1 vs. 10.5.1 Functional Differences

New Features to this release are outlined in the first section for each solution (Enhancements) below. The following sections outline these new features and differences in functionality in respect to workbook templates. The issues that are covered in this section are also repeated in a later section titled 'Known Issues'.

Curve Enhancements

Final and Source Profiles

- New to this release, the concept of Final and Source Profile has been reinforced. The Final Profile is the profile at which Adjustments and Approvals are made. The Source Profile is the profile at which the System Training Window can be overridden.

Spreading Profile Configuration

- New to this release, the spreading profiles used for Source Level Forecasting are specified at the source forecast level in RDF. In previous releases these profiles were hidden from the user and were not required for configuration. However, once these dynamic profiles are configured in the RPAS Configuration Tools, there is no other maintenance required on these profiles.

Maintenance and Approval Along the Calendar Dimension

- New to this release, global defaults can be overridden and approvals can be made along the calendar dimension. Time periods to include in both the Profile Maintenance and Profile Approval workbooks are specified in each workbook's wizard.

Profile Administration

New measures in this workbook include the following:

- **Final Level Profiles:** A read-only, Boolean measure indicating a final profile
- **Normal Value:** If the profile is aggregated to the Aggregation Intersection this will be the value in all the cells (or zero outside of the phase window.) This is usually 1.00 (100%) but occasionally you would want to override this value.
- **Profile Agg Intersection:** A read-only measure set in the Configuration Tools. The intersection at which the profile will sum to 1.00 (100%), this value may be overridden in Normal Value.
- **Profile Approval Intersection:** A read-only measure set in the Configuration Tools. The intersection at which the profile is approved. Approval Intersection should be above or equal to the Aggregation Intersection.
- **Profile Intersection:** A read-only measure set in the Configuration Tools. The initial intersection to which the profile will spread down.
- **Profile Type:** A read-only measure set in the Configuration Tools. The type is used to determine the profile algorithm and validation required by the profile level. See the Curve 10.5 User's Guide for more information on each type.
- **Renormalize:** Renormalize is a Boolean measure. When set to TRUE, it will automatically renormalize the calculated profile result at the corresponding final level. Normally the renormalization is not necessary. For example, if you have a source profile at week of season and its final profile is at day of season, you would need to renormalize the final level because going from week -> day will do replication. Now at day level the profile will sum up to greater than 1 for a season (since it was a week to day it will probably sum up to seven). The renormalize will force the final profile to sum to 1.
- **Source Level Profiles:** A read-only measure set in the Configuration Tools. Specifies the Final Profile that has been assigned to a Source Profile. All Final Profiles have their own profile number in this measure.
- **System Training Window Length:** A write-able measure that specifies the number of weeks of the most recent data to use when the Training Window Method is set to 'Use Training Window'. The System Training Window Length defaults to 10 weeks.

Profile Maintenance

- New to this release, global defaults can be overridden along the calendar dimension. Time periods to include in this workbook are specified in the wizard.
- The same measures as previous releases are in the Profile Maintenance workbook, however they are specified at either Final or Source Level:
- **Final Tab:** Approval Method, Source Profile Exception
- **Source Tab:** System Training Window Begin, System Training Window End
- Within the Profile Maintenance wizard, if a hierarchy does not exist in the desired profile, then selecting dimensions in the hierarchy from the two-tree is meaningless. This should not cause any problems in building the workbook or changing settings in the workbook.

Profile Approval

- Within the Profile Approval wizard, if a hierarchy does not exist in the desired profile, then selecting dimensions in the hierarchy from the two-tree is meaningless. This should not cause any problems in building the workbook or changing settings in the workbook.

Final Tab

- In previous releases, the final profile results were not adjustable. This can now be done using the Adjusted Profile measure.
- Adjusted Profile: The user-adjusted final profile
- If the user wants to make adjustments to the final profile, it is required that the Final worksheet be aggregated to the Aggregation Intersection and lock the cells before making adjustments at the lower level. An easy way to determine the Aggregation Intersection is to match the intersection on the Approval worksheet. For example in our LabsGA configuration, the profile intersection for Profile 11 is Day of Week/Item/Store. The Aggregation Intersection (as shown on the Approval worksheet) is Item/Store. On the Final worksheet, remove the Day of Week dimension and lock the cells, then add Day of Week back into the worksheet. Locking the cells at the Aggregation Intersection allows for cells to normalize to 100% or 1.00 when adjustments are made at the Profile Intersection. This is a usability issue that we hope to address in a patch or future release.

Run Batch Profile

- Rather than selecting a Processing Plan to run the batch as in previous releases, the user may now select one or multiple Final Profiles.

RDF

The following sections summarize functional and cosmetic changes to RDF by workbook template.

Forecast Administration

- The worksheets in the Forecast Administration Workbook have been modified such that parameters are defined only at a Final level or at both Final and Source, as well new parameters for more robust configuration support have been included.

Basic Settings Tab/ Final Level Parameters Worksheet

- There is an issue in this release that prevents the Final Level Parameters worksheets from including only the Final Level. For each domain, it is recommended that the configuration specialist open this worksheet, hide the source levels, and then save the template format. If this step is not done and changes are made to the source levels on these worksheets, those changes will not affect the forecast.
- Data Source: This is now read-only and is configured in the Config Tools. New to this release, the user will no longer be able to have multiple data sources for final levels.
- Default Source Level: This is no longer a pick list of source levels, but is the integer associated to the source levels. The system defaults to the source level set in the Configuration Tools. To easily identify the number associated to the levels, we suggest that the level label set in the Configuration Tools include the level number.

An enhancement has been requested of RPAS to populate this measure with a pick-list of all levels that are valid for a particular final level.

- **Store Interim Forecast: New**—a Boolean measure that must be activated if the customer wants to view/analyze the interim forecast measure generated at the final level.

Basic Settings Tab / Final and Source Level Parameters Worksheet

- **Data Plan:** This is now read-only and is configured in the Config Tools
- **Forecast Length:** This parameter must now be set at both the final and source level. For example, if the forecast length is to be 10 weeks then the setting for a final level at day is 70 (10x7days) and a source level at week will be 10.
- **Seasonal Profile:** A writeable measure. If using a forecasting method that requires a seasonal profile, the measure name must be specified. This measure must be setup in the Configuration Tools. If this value is specified in the Configuration Tools, this value will be the default value in the workbook, but can be changed to a different measure.
- **Spreading Profile:** A writeable measure. A value is required at the source level when supporting Source Level Forecasting. For dynamically generated profiles, this value is the number associated with the final profile level (for example 01)—note that profiles 1 through 9 have a zero (0) preceding them in Curve—this is different than the forecasting level numbers. For profiles that must be approved, this is the measure associated with the final profile level. This measure is 'apvp'+level (for example: apvp1). Spreading Profile can include multiple profiles separated by commas (for example: 09,apvp11). These types of profiles are multiplied by each other to determine the final level results.

An enhancement has been requested of RPAS to have this measure populated with a pick-list that includes all final profiles

- If the user modifies the Seasonal Profile, Spreading Profile or Data Plan, these parameters will need to change the Configuration Tools to reflect the new values. Otherwise the new values will be overwritten with the old values when patching occurs.

Advanced Settings Tab / Final and Source Level Parameters Worksheet

- **Default Confidence %:** Removed from the workbook. This measure along with the various intervals viewed in the Forecast Approval Workbook, have long confused users on the use of the interval calculations. The feedback we have heard from our users is they see little if no value in viewing the resulting measure, Upper Confidence Limit.
- **Causal Aggregation Profile:** Used only for Daily Causal Forecasting. The measure name of the profile used to aggregate causal variable from its base level to the Causal Calculation Intersection.
- **Causal Calculation Intersection:** Used only for Daily Causal Forecasting. The intersection to run the causal forecast. The format needs to match the hierarchy dimension names set in the Configuration Tools—such as `itemstr_week`. Each dimension must have only 4 characters; order of the dimension does not matter. There is no validation of correct format of this intersection.
- **Causal Data Source:** Used only for Daily Causal Forecasting. An optional setting that contains the measure name of the sales data to be used if the level's Data Source is different than the causal data source.
- **Causal Higher Intersection:** This intersection is the aggregate level to model promotions if the causal intersection cannot produce a meaningful causal effect. This intersection will apply to promotions whose Promotion Type is set to 'Override From Higher Level' (set in the Promotion Maintenance workbook). The format of this intersection needs to match the hierarchy dimension names set in the Configuration Tools—such as `sclsrn_`. Each dimension must have only 4 characters; order of the dimension does not matter. There is no validation of correct format of this intersection.
- **Causal Calculation Intersection Periodicity:** Used only for Daily Causal Forecasting. This measure needs to be set to the periodicity of Causal Calculation Intersection. Periodicity is the number of periods within 1 year that correspond to the calendar dimension.
- **Causal Spread Profile:** The measure name of the profile used to spread the causal baseline forecast from the Causal Calculation Intersection to the Final Level.
- **Croston's Min Gaps:** The value must be set based on the calendar dimension of the level. For example, if the value is to be 5 weeks then the setting for a final level at day is 35 (5x7days) and a source level at week will be 5.
- **DD Duration:** The value must be set based on the calendar dimension of the level. For example, if the value is to be 10 weeks then the setting for a final level at day is 70 (10x7days) and a source level at week will be 10.
- **Holt Min Hist:** The value must be set based on the calendar dimension of the level. For example, if the value is to be 13 weeks then the setting for a final level at day is 91 (13x7days) and a source level at week will be 13.
- **Winters Min Hist:** The value must be set based on the calendar dimension of the level. For example, if the value is to be 104 weeks/2 years then the setting for a final level at day is 728 (104 weeks x 7 days) and a source level at week will be 104.

Forecast Maintenance

- Like-Item, Sister Store functionality has been removed from the Forecast Maintenance Workbook and now resides in a separate workbook.
- Source Level Override: This is no longer a pick list of source levels, but is the integer associated to the source levels. The system defaults to 0 if no override is necessary. To easily identify the number associated to the levels, we suggest that the level label set in the Configuration Tools include the level number.

Forecast Like-Item, Sister Store

- All parameters associated to the Like SKU/Sister Store functionality in Forecast Maintenance in v.10.1, now reside in this workbook. The measures required for Like Sku/Sister Store functionality have remained the same.

Forecast Approval

- Upper Confidence Limit and the Confidence Worksheet have been removed from the workbook.

Forecast Scorecard

- Same functionality as previous releases

Interactive Forecasting

New to this release, the forecast is automatically generated at the time of the workbook build using the Default Forecast Method set in the Forecast Administration Workbook

Promote Enhancements

New to this release, the Boolean variables to activate promotions have now been replaced with continuous inputs. The same functionality as in previous releases is available in this release to turn a promotion on or off by entering a 1 (indicates 100%) or leaving the cell at 0 (0#). Continuous inputs provide more robust functionality to support promo price, discounts and ability to indicate the expected performance/contribution of a promotion over the time periods in which it is active.

Promotion Selector

- This workbook has been removed from this release since all promotions are now configured through the RPAS Configuration Tools. If a promotion is to be inactive, the Promotion Planner workbook should not include any promotion variables for future activity. Deleting the promotion from the Configuration Tools, then patching this change into the domain can allow the permanent removal of a promotion from the system.

Promotion Planner

- The promotion variable is now a continuous input rather than a Boolean measure.
- Within the Promotion Planner wizard, if a hierarchy does not exist in the desired promotion level, then selecting dimensions in the hierarchy from the two-tree is meaningless. This should not cause any problems in building the workbook or changing settings in the workbook.

Promotion Maintenance

- Includes the ability to build a Promotion Maintenance workbook with multiple causal levels rather than only a single level.

Promotion Effectiveness

- Formerly known as the Promotion Analysis and Planning workbook
- Still purely a promotion simulation tool--no commit capabilities
- The workbook only applies to causal levels that are final
- Several new measures are used for analysis (See the RDF Users Guide for more details):
 - Approved Forecast
 - Approved Promotional Peak
 - Promotion Future Baseline
 - Promotion Future Forecast
 - Promotion Historical Baseline
 - Promotion Historical Forecast
 - Promotion Type: Removed in favor of changing the Promotion Effect Override.
 - Promotion Approved Effect
 - Promotion Simulated Effect
 - Promotion System Calculated Effect